

REMARKS

Applicant notes with appreciation that, in the Final Office Action dated December 3, 2004, claims 1, 2, 5-9, 19, 20 and 23-28 were allowed. However, claims 10-13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,700,563 ("Koizumi"). Furthermore, claim 29 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Koizumi in view of U.S. Patent No. 3,121,956 ("Philbin").

In response, Applicant has amended the independent claim 10 to recite similar limitations as the allowed independent claim 1. Similarly, the dependent claim 13 was amended to recite similar limitations as the allowed dependent claim 5. In addition, Applicant has added claims 30-34 that recite similar limitations as the allowed dependent claims 6, 7, 28, 8 and 9, respectively. Since the amended claims 10 and 13, and the new claims 30-34 recite similar limitations as the respective allowed claims, Applicant respectfully submits that these claims should also be allowed. Furthermore, since claim 11 depends on the amended independent claim 10, Applicant respectfully submits that the dependent claim 11 is allowable for at least the same reasons as the base claim 10.

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the claims in view of the claim amendments and the remarks made herein. A notice of allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
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